




THE FLY LEAF

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THE FLYLEAF

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EDITORIAL

The staff of The Flyleaf regrets to announce that Professor Jackson Cope, who has served as Editor during the past year, has been forced to resign that position because he is going, on leave of absence, to the Johns Hopkins University.

It is with great pleasure, on the other hand, that the staff welcomes a new Editor, Professor Edward Norbeck, who has consented to take over the post this coming fall. A review of his new book, Religion in Primitive Society, appears elsewhere in this issue.

Professor Norbeck received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of Michigan in Oriental Languages and Civilizations, and his Ph.D in Anthropology from the same institution. Before coming to Rice he taught at the University of Utah, Fordham, and California. In 1959, he was a visiting Professor of Anthropology at Tokyo, a position for which he was particularly well fitted by his fluency in Japanese and his familiarity with Japanese culture.

Professor Norbeck is a member and fellow of many professional societies, the author of many scholarly articles, and the books Takashima, A Japanese Fishing Community (1954) and Pineapple Town - Hawaii (1959).

H. C.

RELIGION IN PRIMITIVE SOCIETY

Professor Edward Norbeck's new book, Religion in Primitive Society, published by Harper, fulfills the best hopes for a comprehensive, readable introduction to this part of anthropology. Norbeck writes clearly and with discernment. His judgment is careful and balanced. The reader has a sense of having covered the relevant subject matter in a way which will allow for more specialized reading.

The division between the two sections of the book is not unduly sharp, although probably necessary. The first half treats religious acts and supernatural objects, with attendant individual psychological states and religious practitioners serving the group. The second gives an excellent description of ritual, the role of religion in social control and witchcraft. Two especially interesting chapters are devoted to therapy---religion's role in sickness and healing ---and contemporary phenomena including the Mau Mau.

A wealth of sociological analysis as well as careful first-hand knowledge underlie Norbeck's writing. Of course, most of his illustrative material is taken from studies which are not his own. Yet he knows what to look for. His own research in Japan have given him a feeling for the subject which makes his interpretation both sensitive and penetrating.

The author is ready to raise questions which are not currently in style in anthropological discussion and to depart from commonly held

opinions among his colleagues, when he believes it necessary. The best example is his second chapter on the origins of religion. Speculation on this question is less the order of the day than before, perhaps in reaction to late nineteenth and early twentieth century theories which could not be verified empirically. Norbeck describes the history of the problem broadly before offering his own chastened conclusions. One is able to see that careful reconsideration of earlier research, in short, scholarly exchange between anthropologists, has made much clearer than before just what can and cannot be said.

The author is most careful to avoid ethnocentrism, "the excessive centering of ideas and values around those of one's own culture". However, he does not confuse primitive and more developed religious notions, although he at times finds similarities between the sociologies of groups at both levels. As a social scientist, he cannot and does not pronounce on the validity of religious concepts. Hence his interpretation is not even by implication reductionistic. Yet it does make clear by example how much can be learned about religious activity from the primitive.

Religion in Primitive Society will be useful for our Rice students in a variety of courses. It is intentionally introductory, not a limited, specialized study by a broad view of the field. It shows how much research and knowledge-in-depth are needed for a survey, and at the same time reveals a genuinely scientific concern to avoid premature generalization.

Niels C. Nielsen, Jr.

ON EXCHANGES

In the annals of library science there is no more unusual figure than that of the Father of Exchanges, Alexandre Vattemare, who after a conventional career as magician and ventriloquist in Europe, threw off his robes and revealed his eccentric nature in America as prophet of a plan for the international exchange of books. In 1839 he actually persuaded the Congress of the United States to participate in his scheme.*

From this exotic seed, the exchange program in libraries has grown. To realize the magnitude of its proliferation, one need only glance at any number of the UNESCO Bulletin for Libraries, or at the Spring, 1961 issue of Library Resources & Technical Services, which in a summary article on the past year's progress in exchanges mentions, to name only a few events, the Fifth Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials, which was held at the New York Public Library; the Regional Seminar on Bibliography, Documentation, and Exchange of Publications on Latin America; and the grant of a large sum of money to the New York Public Library to assist

*For an amusing account of his activities in founding the Boston Public Library, and his relations with George Ticknor and others, see Whitehill, W. M., The Boston Public Library, a Centennial History; for a fuller account of his achievements see Eriksen, Wilhelm, Les échanges internationaux littéraires et scientifiques. These books are in the Fondren Library.

its exchange program with institutions in Africa and Asia.

In a corner of the Fondren Library workroom stands the Kardex file in which are recorded the serial publications regularly received by the Library.

No scholar need be told that the worth of a research library is in proportion to the number and quality of serial publications it maintains. Much of the Fondren Library's prestige, beyond question, is based on its extensive holdings of scientific and technical serials. With the development of the graduate studies program at Rice in various departments of the humanities in recent years has come a notable increase in the Library's holdings in these fields also.

If one opens at random a drawer of the Kardex file, red markers catch the eye. These indicate the titles which are received on exchange from other universities, research institutions, and learned societies throughout the world. Of the total of 4,486 serial titles regularly received in August, 1960, a count showed that 1,262, or over a fourth of them, were received on exchange. Among these should be mentioned such valuable acquisitions as the complete publications of the United States Geological Survey.

It is estimated that if the Library had to pay for the subscriptions to these titles, the cost would be at least five thousand dollars a year. A surprising fact, to an Occidental mind, is that some of these publications are not available for sale at any price, and may only be obtained

by the exchange of materials of the same kind, presumably of equal worth.

The Acta Scientia Sinica, published by the People's Republic of China in Peking, is an interesting example. Fondren Library has been receiving the Acta since 1956 when an exchange arrangement was made. Recently the librarians of Southern Methodist University and of the Socony Mobil Oil Company in Dallas have written us that they have tried in vain to enter subscriptions and to obtain back files.

The filing cabinets of Mrs. Charles W. Hamilton, Fondren's Gifts and Exchanges Librarian, reveal that we have in effect at the present time exchange agreements with 267 institutions in the United States and 224 in foreign countries. Looking at random through the files one gets an impression of the network of our relations with other lands. Brussels alone is represented by its Bibliothèque, the Académie, Royale des Sciences d'Outre-Mer, its Université libre, its Bibliothèque Royale, its Bibliothèque Universitaire; Sofia, Göttingen, Bucharest, Stockholm, Leningrad, Helsinki, Lublin, Warsaw, Peking, Kyoto, Canbera--even the Ramakrishna Library of the Fiji Islands--are united with us in brotherly exchange.

Rice's medium of exchange has been from the beginning the Rice Institute Pamphlet. Those numbers dealing with mathematics, biology, or economics have brought in the richest returns; numerous exchange agreements have been made with institutions which ask to receive publications in these areas only.

We are faced with the possibility of the

loss of many of our exchanges because of the now-infrequent publication of the Pamphlet. The vehicle which for years has been transporting the products of research and scholarship of the Rice faculty, and returning loaded with scholarly treasure, will set sail only once a year. It should be the fond hope of all Friends of Fondren that there will, somehow, continue to be publications at the Rice University campus which will be available to the Library to continue and to expand its valuable exchange program.

Elizabeth Rodell

THE FONDREN LIBRARY
AN A.E.C. DEPOSITORY LIBRARY

During World War II, a great amount of information of a research nature was published in series of reports which were unrelated to the established scientific and technical journals and which could be controlled for reasons of security.

As the national defense effort continued to require that still newer information be published in these same and in many series of private reports, the interested general public and those in private enterprise taking part in the growing development of atomic energy had increased need to consult the older material that no longer was classified for security reasons and the newer material entirely of an unclassified nature published in this now well-established way. It was estimated in 1953 that 75,000 technical reports were being issued annually by research projects supported by the federal government.

The Atomic Energy Commission is one of the largest distributors of this kind of literature. Early after the war it chose to make its information available through officially designated Depository Libraries in this country and abroad. By 1955 the number of these had grown to include 47 in the United States. One of them, the one designated for the State of Texas, was at the University of Texas Library in Austin.

In July of 1956 a representative of the AEC and the Board of Library Resources of The American Library Association met for the purpose of select-

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but most of the reports received for the Depository
are not cataloged and classified; not shelved with-
in the regular book and periodical stock. They are
shelved in a distinct alpha-numerical arrangement
in Room B-18 in the basement of the Library. The
catalog for this entire collection is NUCLEAR
SCIENCE ABSTRACTS, the only comprehensive abstract-
ing and indexing service devoted solely to the
literature of nuclear science and technology. In
each issue of this journal, which is a regular,
cataloged part of the Fondren collection
(QC 173.U66Ref.), a "Report Number Index" gives

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In July of 1956 a representative of the AEC
and the Board of Library Resources of The American
Library Association met for the purpose of select-

ing additional locations of unclassified technical AEC material. Four places were chosen in Texas: Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, College Station; Southern Methodist University, Dallas; San Antonio Public Library; and Rice University, Houston. The Board of Library Resources recommended Rice to be the Depository for its region because of the Fondren Library's "strength and leadership." Dr. Houston, then the President of Rice, received notice that a core collection of 11,000 items (2,500 in full size, 8,500 in micro-card) would be sent to Rice that year.

Since that time up to 4,000 new reports have been coming each year from the AEC. Later arrangements made for the Fondren by the AEC provide that the Library receive all current reports from the Atomic Energy Research Establishment of Great Britain and Atomic Energy of Canada, Ltd. The Fondren agrees, for its part, to "allow general access to the reports and publications, to provide reference service in regard to them, and to provide photocopies to users at its established prices for such services."

Some reports and report series are fully cataloged and classified for the standard library collection, but most of the reports received for the Depository are not cataloged and classified; not shelved within the regular book and periodical stock. They are shelved in a distinct alpha-numerical arrangement in Room B-18 in the basement of the Library. The catalog for this entire collection is NUCLEAR SCIENCE ABSTRACTS, the only comprehensive abstracting and indexing service devoted solely to the literature of nuclear science and technology. In each issue of this journal, which is a regular, cataloged part of the Fondren collection (QC 173.U66Ref.), a "Report Number Index" gives

all known information on the availability of both AEC and non-AEC reports abstracted therein, indicating by use of the symbol "Dep." that an item is on deposit in Depository Libraries in full size and by "Dep. (mc)" that an item is present there in the form of microcard. From time to time such information is cumulated in handier form in editions of TID-4000, "Public Availability of Reports Abstracted in Nuclear Science Abstracts".

The material in the Depository Library is an important and noteworthy part of the eminent research materials of the Fondren Library. The Science Reference staff at Fondren is willing at all times to make this collection available to all concerned with it.

Richard O'Keeffe

GIFTS

The following gifts to the Fondren Library, all of them most welcome and showing an interesting diversity, have been received during the past half year:

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|------------------------|--|
| E. Pat Quinn | 17 long-playing phonograph records which are an addition to the collection of jazz and folk music records Mr. Quinn began in 1955. |
| Frank E. Vandiver | Manuscript of JUBAL'S RAID, Professor Vandiver's latest book. |
| George G. Williams | Autographs: collection of letters to Mr. Williams from authors (Texas and others) and ornithologists. |
| | CREATIVE WRITING, 2nd ed. Typescript and author's corrections on 1st edition. |
| William Bridgwater | 50 volumes recently printed by Columbia University Press. |
| William M. Hart | 25 volumes: Auden, Isherwood, Spender, McLeish, Eliot and others, including many 1st editions. |
| Mrs. Alice Baker Jones | Scrapbook containing pictures of the graduating classes and exercises of 1916 to 1940. |

- College Women's Club, Annual gift of collection of
Drama Group modern plays.
- Mrs. Sarah E. Murdock Collection of books including
Sir Walter Scott's TALES OF A
GRANDFATHER, 2nd series, 3v.,
1829.
- United Daughters of the Confederacy Gifts from various local
chapters. The Fondren Library
is trying to build up its file
of the U.D.C. parent organiza-
tion and of the Texas Division.
- Mrs. Edward W. Kelley Files of the CONFEDERATE
VETERAN. The F.L. file is
still incomplete, and gifts
of this publication would be
most welcome.
- Mrs. Helen Green Krausse Collection of German books
and copies of THE CONGO, and
IN DARKEST AFRICA by Henry M.
Stanley, LAST JOURNALS of
David Livingstone, and EMIN
PASHA AND THE REBELLION AT
THE EQUATOR, by Mounterray-
Jephson.
- Collections of sheet music through the interest
of Mrs. Ray Wood. Of
particular interest are two
collections bound for
Zilphia Fuller, daughter
of the 5th Mayor of Houston,
which contain songs of the
1820's to 1850's including
TEXIAN GRAND MARCH and FLAG
OF TEXAS. These were given

by Mrs. Edward T. Chew who was a niece of Miss Fuller in the name of the National Society of Colonial Dames of America. Mrs. C. A. Newton contributed a collection of songs of the 1850's.

Pallas Athene Liter-	Gift of \$250 for the P.A.L.S.
ary Society	Collection on International
Alumnae	Relations.

Gifts of technical magazines from Humble, Shell, Texas Instruments, Dow, National Association of Corrosion Engineers, Merichem Company and other companies and individuals.

CAMPANILES

The Fondren Library has a few extra copies of the CAMPANILE for 1957, 1958, and 1959 and would be glad to give them to interested persons. Requests should be made by mail to Gifts & Exchanges Section, Fondren Library, P. O. Box 1892, Houston 1, Texas.

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